Escape of Prisoners

2252. DR. ABRAR AHMED:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that 90 per cent of prisoners who escape do so while being escorted by the police without handcuffs from prison to courts and back, as per data prepared by the Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D);

(b) whether Government are also aware that Justice V.S. Malimath, heading the committee for reform in the criminal justice system, has suggested that the Supreme Court judgement on hand-cuffing could be reviewed;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE INTHE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) BPR&D have not prepared any data showing that 90% of prisoners who escape do so while being escorted by the police without handcuffs from prison to courts and back. However, an analysis by National Crime Records Bureau shows that 83.7% prisoners escape from custody while outside lock-up.

(b) and (c) Justice V.S. Malimath who delivered the valedictory address in a Seminar held on 10th July 2002, on "Use of Handcuffs" at New Delhi, made an observation that Supreme Court can be approached to review its earlier decision preferably with a transparent internal supervision mechanism in place.

(d) There is no proposal to approach the Supreme Court on the matter at present.

Nagpur as alternate capital of the country

2253. SHRI R.S. GAVAI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any proposal is under consideration of Government to make Nagpur as alternate capital of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether in past any committee has been set up to examine the matter of deciding alternate capital for the country;

(d) if so, the recommendations of the committee; and

(e) Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) and (e) Does not arise.

Proposal sent by RPF

†2254. SHRI RAMA SHANKER KAUSHIK: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether RPF had sent any proposal to Ministry of Home Affairs to encounter the terrorist activities and for providing security to passengers inside the trains and stations;

(b) the decision taken by the Ministry in this regard; and

(c) by when Government propose to authorise RPF for providing security to Railway property, passengers in trains and Station premises against terrorists?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) to (c) No proposal to this Ministry was sent for empowering RPF to deal with terrorist activities. However, a Cabinet Note proposing to give some responsibilities to the RPF personnel for the protection of passengers in the railway premises and the running trains has been moved by the Ministry of Railways and is under consideration with various Ministries.

Detention of Imtiyaz Ahmed Bajaj under POTA

†2255. SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.